

CONFIDENTIAL

March 29th, 1960

COCOM Document No. 3937

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

ON

A GERMAN PROPOSAL TO EXPORT BORON CARBIDE TO POLAND

March 24th, 1960

Present: Belgium (Luxembourg), Canada, France, Germany, Italy,
Japan, Netherlands, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

Reference: COCOM Document No. 3906.

1. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the Committee to the German proposal to export 1350 kilos of boron carbide to Poland. He invited Delegates to give the views of their authorities.
2. The FRENCH Delegate said that his authorities raised no objection to this export although they had certain doubts about the large quantity involved. Boron carbide was used for making extra hard alloy steels and it derived its strategic value from its exceptional hardness, which was exceeded only by that of the diamond.
3. There were no objections from the other Members of the Committee and the GERMAN Delegate expressed his thanks for the favourable replies which had been given. He undertook to bring the remarks of his French colleague to the attention of his authorities but mentioned that industrial diamonds had been deleted from the embargo list.

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